Pyrites, Phosphates and Chemicals Limited (PPCL) were authorised in October '94 to procure limited quantities, on adhoc basis, during Rabi '94-95. This arrangement was continued during 1995-96. Ministry of Commerce was consulted while making this decision.

Rising Incidence of Heart Attacks and High Blood Pressure due to Air Pollution

57. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Health Organisation has suggested to make it compulsory for all the vehicles to use unleaded petrol and also phase out all the old model vehicles;

(b) whether the World Health Organisation has also indicated that low levels of lead in the atmosphere spewed by vehicles by burning leaded petrol can cause and also accelerate kidney ailments;

(c) whether it is also a fact that over the years the air pollution has emerged as an independent factor for rising incidence of heart attacks and high blood pressure; and

(d) if so, the details of action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) World Health Organisation has indicated that long exposure to lead emissions may damage kidneys and can cause associated disorders.

(c) According to World Health Organisation, epidemiological and animal data indicate that lead increases blood pressure.

(d) Health education, counselling and pollution control are some of the measures taken to check these diseases. A pilot project for control of Cardio-vascular Diseases, including heart attack and high blood pressure, has been initiated during 1995-96.

Electricity generated in Karnataka

58. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total quantum of electricity generated in Karnataka during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(b) what is the quantum of power provided to Karnataka by the NTPC during the last three years;

(c) what is the basis of allocation of power from NTPC to different States and whether Karnataka has utilised its full share; and

(d) whether the NTPC would allot more power to Karnataka in view of the acute shortage of power?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) Energy generation in Karnataka during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 was 14154 MU, 16345 MU and 14907 MU respectively.

(b) and (c) The share vis-a-vis actual drawal by Karnataka from NTPC's Ramagundam STPS during the last three years was:

	Share (MU)	Drawn (MU)
1993-94	2923	2274.0
1994-95	2685	2036.0
1995-96	2638	2668.0

The allocation of power from NTPC stations to different States is made as per

institutional development. The project seeks to extend assistance to GRIDCO in its programme for Transmission and Distribution related activities. The project also covers facilitating the operationalisation of the Orissa Regulatory Reforms Commission and undertaking of a variety of demand side measures.